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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

HITACHI AUTOMOTIVE SYSTEMS, LTD.,

Defendant.

Criminal No.

Filed:

Violation: 15 U.S.C. § 1

FILED

NOV - 6 2013

CLERK'S OFFICE
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN MICHIGAN

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States of America and Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd. ("defendant"), a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan, hereby enter into the following Plea Agreement pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(C) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure ("Fed. R. Crim. P."):

RIGHTS OF DEFENDANT

1. The defendant understands its rights:
 - (a) to be represented by an attorney;
 - (b) to be charged by Indictment;
 - (c) as a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan, to decline to accept service of the Summons in this case, and to contest the jurisdiction of the United States to prosecute this case against it in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan;
 - (d) to plead not guilty to any criminal charge brought against it;
 - (e) to have a trial by jury, at which it would be presumed not guilty of the charge and the United States would have to prove every essential element of the charged offense beyond a reasonable doubt for it to be found guilty;

- (f) to confront and cross-examine witnesses against it and to subpoena witnesses in its defense at trial;
- (g) to appeal its conviction if it is found guilty; and
- (h) to appeal the imposition of sentence against it.

**AGREEMENT TO PLEAD GUILTY
AND WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS**

2. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the rights set out in Paragraph 1(b)-(g) above. The defendant also knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to file any appeal, any collateral attack, or any other writ or motion, including but not limited to an appeal under 18 U.S.C. § 3742, that challenges the sentence imposed by the Court if that sentence is consistent with or below the recommended sentence in Paragraph 9 of this Plea Agreement, regardless of how the sentence is determined by the Court. This agreement does not affect the rights or obligations of the United States as set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3742(b)-(c). Nothing in this paragraph, however, will act as a bar to the defendant perfecting any legal remedies it may otherwise have on appeal or collateral attack respecting claims of ineffective assistance of counsel or prosecutorial misconduct. The defendant agrees that there is currently no known evidence of ineffective assistance of counsel or prosecutorial misconduct. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 7(b), the defendant will waive indictment and plead guilty to a one-count Information to be filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. The Information will charge the defendant with participating in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and eliminate competition in the automotive parts industry by agreeing to allocate the supply of, rig bids for, and fix, stabilize, and maintain the prices of, certain automotive products sold to automobile manufacturers in the United States and elsewhere, from at least as early as January 2000 until at least February 2010, in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. For the purposes of this Plea Agreement, "automotive parts" are defined as starter motors,

alternators, air flow meters, valve timing control devices, fuel injection systems, electronic throttle bodies, ignition coils, inverters and motor generators.

3. The defendant will plead guilty to the criminal charge described in Paragraph 2 above pursuant to the terms of this Plea Agreement and will make a factual admission of guilt to the Court in accordance with Fed. R. Crim. P. 11, as set forth in Paragraph 4 below.

FACTUAL BASIS FOR OFFENSE CHARGED

4. Had this case gone to trial, the United States would have presented evidence sufficient to prove the following facts:

(a) For purposes of this Plea Agreement, the “relevant period” is that period from at least as early as January 2000 until at least February 2010. The defendant is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan. The defendant has its principal place of business in Tokyo, Japan. During the relevant period, the defendant and/or certain related entities as defined in paragraph 13 was a manufacturer of various automotive parts as defined in paragraph 2. The defendant was engaged in the sale of these automotive parts in the United States and elsewhere, and employed 5,000 or more individuals. Starter motors are small electric motors used in starting internal combustion engines. Alternators are electromechanical devices that generate an electric current while engines are in operation. Air flow meters measure the volume of air flowing into engines. Valve timing control devices control the timing of engine valves’ operation, and include the VTC actuator and/or solenoid valve. Fuel injection systems admit fuel or a fuel/air mixture into engine cylinders, and may include injectors, high pressure pumps, rail assemblies, feed lines and other components sold as a unitary system. Fuel injection systems can also be sold as part of a broader system, such as an engine management system, or as separate components, such as the injectors, feed lines, high pressure pumps, and/or rail assemblies. Electronic throttle bodies control the amount of air flowing into engines. Ignition coils release electric energy to ignite the fuel/air mixture in cylinders.

Inverters convert direct current electricity to alternating current. Motor generators are electric motors used to power electric drive systems that can also capture energy from the process of stopping a vehicle to generate electricity through regenerative braking. During the relevant period, the defendant's and its related entities' sales of starter motors to General Motors Company ("GM") and Nissan Motor Company, Ltd. ("Nissan"); alternators to Nissan; air flow meters to Nissan, Toyota Motor Corporation ("Toyota") and Honda Motor Company, Ltd., ("Honda"); valve timing control devices to Ford Motor Company ("Ford"); fuel injection systems to GM and Nissan; electronic throttle bodies to GM and Nissan; and ignition coils to Honda, together with sales to certain of their subsidiaries, affiliates and suppliers in the United States and elsewhere totaled more than \$650 million.

(b) During the relevant period, the defendant, through its officers and employees, including high-level personnel of the defendant, participated in a conspiracy among major automotive parts manufacturers, the primary purpose of which was to allocate the supply of, rig bids for, and fix, stabilize and maintain the prices of, starter motors, alternators, air flow meters, valve timing control devices, fuel injection systems, electronic throttle bodies, ignition coils, inverters and motor generators sold to, depending on the product, Nissan, Honda, GM, Ford, Toyota, Chrysler Group LLC, Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. and others, and certain of their subsidiaries, affiliates and suppliers in the United States and elsewhere. In furtherance of the conspiracy, the defendant, through its officers and employees, engaged in discussions and attended meetings with representatives of other major automotive parts manufacturers. During these discussions and meetings, agreements were reached to allocate the supply of the aforementioned automotive parts sold to automobile manufacturers, rig bids quoted to automobile manufacturers for the aforementioned automotive parts, and to fix, stabilize, and maintain the prices, including coordinating price adjustments requested by automobile

manufacturers, of the aforementioned automotive parts sold to automobile manufacturers in the United States and elsewhere.

(c) During the relevant period, certain automotive parts sold by one or more of the conspirator firms, and equipment and supplies necessary to the production and distribution of automotive parts, as well as payments for automotive parts, traveled in interstate commerce and foreign commerce as imports into the United States. The business activities of the defendant and its co-conspirators in connection with the production and sale of automotive parts that were the subjects of this conspiracy were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

(d) The conspiratorial meetings and discussions described above took place in the United States and elsewhere, and automotive parts that were the subject of the conspiracy were sold to Nissan, Honda, GM, Ford, Toyota, and others, and certain of their subsidiaries, affiliates and suppliers in the U.S. and elsewhere, by the defendant's affiliate, Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc., which is located in the Eastern District of Michigan.

(e) In February 2010, certain employees of the defendant became aware of a criminal antitrust investigation when one of their co-conspirators in the criminal activity described in paragraphs 4(a) – (d) of this Plea Agreement was searched by Federal law enforcement authorities in the United States. Over the next several days, certain employees of the defendant took steps to destroy evidence of the defendant's criminal activity described in paragraphs 4(a) – (d). In July 2011, certain employees of the defendant learned that the defendant was being raided by law enforcement authorities outside the United States in connection with an investigation into violations of competition laws. Immediately after learning of the search, certain employees of the defendant took steps to destroy evidence of the criminal activity described in paragraphs 4(a) – (d) to prevent its discovery by law enforcement authorities. On both occasions, the

evidence that was destroyed included electronic files and paper documents. Certain employees involved in the efforts to destroy evidence were senior managers of the defendant.

ELEMENTS OF THE OFFENSE

5. The elements of the charged offense are that:

- (a) the conspiracy described in the Information existed at or about the time alleged;
- (b) the defendant knowingly became a member of the conspiracy; and
- (c) the conspiracy described in the Information either substantially affected interstate commerce in goods or services or occurred within the flow of interstate commerce in goods and services.

POSSIBLE MAXIMUM SENTENCE

6. The defendant understands that the statutory maximum penalty which may be imposed against it upon conviction for a violation of Section One of the Sherman Antitrust Act is a fine in an amount equal to the greatest of:

- (a) \$100 million (15 U.S.C. § 1);
- (b) twice the gross pecuniary gain the conspirators derived from the crime (18 U.S.C. § 3571(c) and (d)); or
- (c) twice the gross pecuniary loss caused to the victims of the crime by the conspirators (18 U.S.C. § 3571(c) and (d)).

7. In addition, the defendant understands that:

- (a) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3561(c)(1), the Court may impose a term of probation of at least one year, but not more than five years;

(b) pursuant to §8B1.1 of the United States Sentencing Guidelines (“U.S.S.G.,” “Sentencing Guidelines,” or “Guidelines”) or 18 U.S.C. §3563(b)(2) or 3663(a)(3), the Court may order it to pay restitution to the victims of the offense; and

(c) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013(a)(2)(B), the Court is required to order the defendant to pay a \$400 special assessment upon conviction for the charged crime.

SENTENCING GUIDELINES

8. The defendant understands that the Sentencing Guidelines are advisory, not mandatory, but that the Court must consider, in determining and imposing sentence, the Guidelines Manual in effect on the date of sentencing unless that Manual provides for greater punishment than the Manual in effect on the last date that the offense of conviction was committed, in which case the Court must consider the Guidelines Manual in effect on the last date that the offense of conviction was committed. The parties agree there is no ex post facto issue under the November, 2012 Guidelines Manual. The Court must also consider the other factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) in determining and imposing sentence. The defendant understands that the Guidelines determinations will be made by the Court by a preponderance of the evidence standard. The defendant understands that although the Court is not ultimately bound to impose a sentence within the applicable Guidelines range, its sentence must be reasonable based upon consideration of all relevant sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

SENTENCING AGREEMENT

9. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C) and subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and related entities, as defined in Paragraph 13 of this Plea Agreement, the United States and the defendant agree that the appropriate disposition of this case is, and agree to recommend jointly that the Court impose, a sentence requiring the defendant to pay to the United States a criminal fine of \$195 million, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3571(d),

payable in full before the fifteenth (15th) day after the date of judgment, and no order of restitution ("the recommended sentence"). The parties agree that there exists no aggravating or mitigating circumstance of a kind, or to a degree, not adequately taken into consideration by the U.S. Sentencing Commission in formulating the Sentencing Guidelines justifying a departure pursuant to U.S.S.G. §5K2.0. The parties agree not to seek at the sentencing hearing any sentence outside of the Guidelines range nor any Guidelines adjustment for any reason that is not set forth in this Plea Agreement. The parties further agree that the recommended sentence set forth in this Plea Agreement is reasonable.

(a) The defendant understands that the Court will order it to pay a \$400 special assessment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013(a)(2)(B), in addition to any fine imposed.

(b) In light of the availability of civil causes of action, which potentially provide for a recovery of a multiple of actual damages, the recommended sentence does not include a restitution order for the offense charged in the Information.

(c) Both parties will recommend that no term of probation be imposed, but the defendant understands that the Court's denial of this request will not void this Plea Agreement.

(d) The United States and the defendant jointly submit that this Plea Agreement, together with the record that will be created by the United States and the defendant at the plea and sentencing hearings, and the further disclosure described in Paragraph 11, will provide sufficient information concerning the defendant, the crime charged in this case, and the defendant's role in the crime to enable the meaningful exercise of sentencing authority by the Court under 18 U.S.C. § 3553. The United States and defendant agree to request jointly that the Court accept the defendant's guilty plea and impose sentence on an expedited schedule as early as the date of arraignment, based upon the record provided by the defendant and the United States, under the provisions of

Fed. R. Crim. P. 32(c)(1)(A)(ii), U.S.S.G. §6A1.1, and Rule 32.1(h) of the Criminal Local Rules. The Court's denial of the request to impose sentence on an expedited schedule will not void this Plea Agreement.

(e) The United States contends that had this case gone to trial, the United States would have presented evidence to prove that the gain derived from or the loss resulting from the charged offense is sufficient to justify the recommended sentence set forth in this paragraph, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3571(d). For purposes of this plea and sentencing only, the defendant waives its rights to contest this calculation.

10. The United States and the defendant agree that the applicable Guidelines fine range exceeds the fine contained in the recommended sentence set out in Paragraph 9 above. Subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its related entities, as defined in Paragraph 13 of this Plea Agreement, and prior to sentencing in this case, the United States agrees that it will make a motion, pursuant to U.S.S.G. §8C4.1, for a downward departure from the Guidelines fine range and will request that the Court impose the recommended sentence set out in Paragraph 9 of this Plea Agreement because of the defendant's and its related entities' substantial assistance in the government's investigation and prosecutions of violations of federal criminal law in the automotive parts industry.

11. Subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its related entities, as defined in Paragraph 13 of this Plea Agreement, and prior to sentencing in this case, the United States will fully advise the Court and the Probation Office of the fact, manner, and extent of the defendant's and its related entities' cooperation, and their commitment to prospective cooperation, with the United States' investigation and prosecutions, all material facts relating to the defendant's involvement in the charged offense, and all other relevant conduct.

12. The United States and the defendant understand that the Court retains complete discretion to accept or reject the recommended sentence provided for in Paragraph 9 of this Plea Agreement.

(a) If the Court does not accept the recommended sentence, the United States and the defendant agree that this Plea Agreement, except for Paragraph 12(b) below, will be rendered void.

(b) If the Court does not accept the recommended sentence, the defendant will be free to withdraw its guilty plea (Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(5) and (d)). If the defendant withdraws its plea of guilty, this Plea Agreement, the guilty plea, and any statement made in the course of any proceedings under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 regarding the guilty plea or this Plea Agreement or made in the course of plea discussions with an attorney for the government will not be admissible against the defendant in any criminal or civil proceeding, except as otherwise provided in Fed. R. Evid. 410. In addition, the defendant agrees that, if it withdraws its guilty plea pursuant to this subparagraph of this Plea Agreement, the statute of limitations period for any offense referred to in Paragraph 15 of this Plea Agreement will be tolled for the period between the date of the signing of this Plea Agreement and the date the defendant withdrew its guilty plea or for a period of sixty (60) days after the date of the signing of this Plea Agreement, whichever period is greater.

DEFENDANT'S COOPERATION

13. The defendant and its related entities will cooperate fully and truthfully with the United States in the prosecution of this case, the current federal investigation of violations of federal antitrust and related criminal laws involving the manufacture or sale of automotive parts as defined in paragraph 2 of this Plea Agreement, as well as automotive engine control units, automotive transmission control units, and automotive sensors, and any litigation or other proceedings arising or resulting from that investigation to which the United States is a party (collectively, "Federal Proceeding"). Federal Proceeding includes, but is not limited to, an investigation, prosecution, litigation, or other proceeding regarding obstruction of, the making of a false statement or declaration in, the commission of perjury or subornation of perjury in, the

commission of contempt in, or conspiracy to commit such offenses in, a Federal Proceeding. The defendant's related entities for purposes of this Plea Agreement are its affiliate Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc., the former Hitachi Automotive Systems Group of Hitachi, Ltd., as it existed prior to July 1, 2009, the former Hitachi Unisia Automotive, Ltd., the former Tokico, Ltd., and entities engaged in the manufacture or sale of automotive parts, automotive engine control units, automotive transmission control units, or automotive sensors that the defendant or Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc. had a greater than 50% ownership interest in as of the date of signature of this Plea Agreement. The full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its related entities will include, but not be limited to:

(a) producing to the United States all documents, information, and other materials, wherever located, not protected under the attorney-client privilege or the work product doctrine (and with translations into English), in the possession, custody, or control of the defendant or any of its related entities, requested by the United States in connection with any Federal Proceeding;

(b) using its best efforts to secure the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation, as defined in Paragraph 14 of this Plea Agreement, of the current and former directors, officers, and employees of the defendant or any of its related entities as may be requested by the United States, but excluding the 6 individuals listed in Attachment A (filed under seal), including making these persons available in the United States and at other mutually agreed-upon locations, at the defendant's expense, for interviews and the provision of testimony in grand jury, trial, and other judicial proceedings in connection with any Federal Proceeding. Current directors, officers, and employees are defined for purposes of this Plea Agreement as individuals who are directors, officers, or employees of the defendant or any of its related entities as of the date of signature of this Plea Agreement.

14. The full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of each person described in Paragraph 13(b) above will be subject to the procedures and protections of this paragraph, and will include, but not be limited to:

(a) producing in the United States and at other mutually agreed-upon locations all documents, including claimed personal documents and other materials, wherever located not protected under the attorney-client privilege or the work product doctrine (and with translations into English), that are requested by attorneys and agents of the United States in connection with any Federal Proceeding;

(b) making himself or herself available for interviews in the United States and at other mutually agreed-upon locations, not at the expense of the United States, upon the request of attorneys and agents of the United States in connection with any Federal Proceeding;

(c) responding fully and truthfully to all inquiries of the United States in connection with any Federal Proceeding, without falsely implicating any person or intentionally withholding any information, subject to the penalties of making false statements or declarations (18 U.S.C. §§ 1001, 1623), obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq.*), or conspiracy to commit such offenses;

(d) otherwise voluntarily providing the United States with any material or information not requested in (a) - (c) of this paragraph and not protected under the attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine that he or she may have that is related to any Federal Proceeding;

(e) when called upon to do so by the United States in connection with any Federal Proceeding, testifying in grand jury, trial, and other judicial proceedings in the United States fully, truthfully, and under oath, subject to the penalties of perjury (18 U.S.C. § 1621), making false statements or declarations in grand jury or court

proceedings (18 U.S.C. § 1623), contempt (18 U.S.C. §§ 401-402), and obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq.*); and

(f) agreeing that, if the agreement not to prosecute him or her in this Plea Agreement is rendered void under Paragraph 16(c), the statute of limitations period for any Relevant Offense, as defined in Paragraph 16(a), will be tolled as to him or her for the period between the date of the signing of this Plea Agreement and six (6) months after the date that the United States gave notice of its intent to void its obligations to that person under this Plea Agreement.

GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT

15. Subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its related entities, as defined in Paragraph 13 of this Plea Agreement, and upon the Court's acceptance of the guilty plea called for by this Plea Agreement and the imposition of the recommended sentence, the United States agrees that it will not bring further criminal charges against the defendant or any of its related entities for any act or offense committed before the date of signature of this Plea Agreement that (a) was undertaken in furtherance of an antitrust conspiracy involving the manufacture or sale of automotive parts as defined in paragraph 2 of this Plea Agreement, automotive engine control units, automotive transmission control units, or automotive sensors, or (b) is specified in Paragraph 4(e). The nonprosecution terms of this paragraph do not apply to (a) any acts of subornation of perjury (18 U.S.C. § 1622), making a false statement (18 U.S.C. § 1001), obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq.*), contempt (18 U.S.C. §§ 401-402), or conspiracy to commit such offenses, except for the conduct specified in Paragraph 4(e) of this Plea Agreement; (b) civil matters of any kind; (c) any violation of the

federal tax or securities laws or conspiracy to commit such offenses; or (d) any crime of violence.

16. The United States agrees to the following:

(a) Upon the Court's acceptance of the guilty plea called for by this Plea Agreement and the imposition of the recommended sentence and subject to the exceptions noted in Paragraph 16(c), the United States will not bring criminal charges against any current or former director, officer, or employee of the defendant or its related entities for any act or offense committed before the date of signature of this Plea Agreement and while that person was acting as a director, officer, or employee of the defendant or its related entities that was undertaken in furtherance of an antitrust conspiracy involving the manufacture or sale of the automotive parts as defined in Paragraph 2, automotive engine control units, automotive transmission control units, or automotive sensors ("Relevant Offense"), except that the protections granted in this paragraph do not apply to the 6 individuals listed in Attachment A filed under seal;

(b) Should the United States determine that any current or former director, officer, or employee of the defendant or its related entities may have information relevant to any Federal Proceeding, the United States may request that person's cooperation under the terms of this Plea Agreement by written request delivered to counsel for the individual (with a copy to the undersigned counsel for the defendant) or, if the individual is not known by the United States to be represented, to the undersigned counsel for the defendant;

(c) If any person requested to provide cooperation under Paragraph 16(b) fails to comply with his or her obligations under Paragraph 14, then the terms of this Plea

Agreement as they pertain to that person and the agreement not to prosecute that person granted in this Plea Agreement will be rendered void, and the United States may prosecute such person criminally for any federal crime of which the United States has knowledge, including, but not limited to any Relevant Offense;

(d) Except as provided in Paragraph 16(e), information provided by a person described in Paragraph 16(b) to the United States under the terms of this Plea Agreement pertaining to any Relevant Offense, or any information directly or indirectly derived from that information, may not be used against that person in a criminal case, except in a prosecution for perjury or subornation of perjury (18 U.S.C. §§ 1621-22), making a false statement or declaration (18 U.S.C. §§ 1001, 1623), obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq.*), contempt (18 U.S.C. §§ 401-402), or conspiracy to commit such offenses;

(e) If any person who provides information to the United States under this Plea Agreement fails to comply fully with his or her obligations under Paragraph 14 of this Plea Agreement, the agreement in Paragraph 16(d) not to use that information or any information directly or indirectly derived from it against that person in a criminal case will be rendered void;

(f) The nonprosecution terms of this paragraph do not apply to civil matters of any kind; any violation of the federal tax or securities laws or conspiracy to commit such offenses; any crime of violence; or perjury or subornation of perjury (18 U.S.C. §§ 1621-22), making a false statement or declaration (18 U.S.C. §§ 1001, 1623), obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq.*), contempt (18 U.S.C. §§ 401-402), or conspiracy to commit such offenses; and

(g) Documents provided under Paragraphs 13(a) and 14(a) will be deemed responsive to outstanding grand jury subpoenas issued to the defendant or any of its related entities.

17. The United States agrees that when any person travels to the United States for interviews, grand jury appearances, or court appearances pursuant to this Plea Agreement, or for meetings with counsel in preparation therefor, the United States will take no action, based upon any Relevant Offense, to subject such person to arrest, detention, or service of process, or to prevent such person from departing the United States. This paragraph does not apply to an individual's commission of perjury or subornation of perjury (18 U.S.C. §§ 1621-22), making false statements or declarations (18 U.S.C. §§ 1001, 1623), obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq.*), contempt (18 U.S.C. §§ 401-402), or conspiracy to commit such offenses in connection with any testimony or information provided or requested in any Federal Proceeding.

REPRESENTATION BY COUNSEL

18. The defendant has been represented by counsel and is fully satisfied that its attorneys have provided competent legal representation. The defendant has thoroughly reviewed this Plea Agreement and acknowledges that counsel has advised it of the nature of the charge, any possible defenses to the charge, and the nature and range of possible sentences.

VOLUNTARY PLEA

19. The defendant's decision to enter into this Plea Agreement and to tender a plea of guilty is freely and voluntarily made and is not the result of force, threats, assurances, promises, or representations other than the representations contained in this Plea Agreement and Attachment A. The United States has made no promises or representations to the defendant as to

whether the Court will accept or reject the recommendations contained within this Plea Agreement.

VIOLATION OF PLEA AGREEMENT

20. The defendant agrees that, should the United States determine in good faith, during the period that any Federal Proceeding is pending, that the defendant or any of its related entities have failed to provide full, truthful, and continuing cooperation, as defined in Paragraph 13 of this Plea Agreement, or have otherwise violated any provision of this Plea Agreement, the United States will notify counsel for the defendant in writing by personal or overnight delivery, email, or facsimile transmission and may also notify counsel by telephone of its intention to void any of its obligations under this Plea Agreement (except its obligations under this paragraph), and the defendant and its related entities will be subject to prosecution for any federal crime of which the United States has knowledge including, but not limited to, the substantive offenses relating to the investigation resulting in this Plea Agreement. The defendant agrees that, in the event that the United States is released from its obligations under this Plea Agreement and brings criminal charges against the defendant or its related entities for any offense referred to in Paragraph 15 of this Plea Agreement, the statute of limitations period for such offense will be tolled for the period between the date of the signing of this Plea Agreement and six (6) months after the date the United States gave notice of its intent to void its obligations under this Plea Agreement.

21. The defendant understands and agrees that in any further prosecution of it or its related entities resulting from the release of the United States from its obligations under this Plea Agreement, because of the defendant's or its related entities' violation of this Plea Agreement, any documents, statements, information, testimony, or evidence provided by it,

its related entities, or current or former directors, officers, or employees of it or its related entities to attorneys or agents of the United States, federal grand juries, or courts, and any leads derived therefrom, may be used against it or its related entities. In addition, the defendant unconditionally waives its right to challenge the use of such evidence in any such further prosecution, notwithstanding the protections of Fed. R. Evid. 410.

ENTIRETY OF AGREEMENT

22. This Plea Agreement and Attachment A constitute the entire agreement between the United States and the defendant concerning the disposition of the criminal charge in this case. This Plea Agreement cannot be modified except in writing, signed by the United States and the defendant.

23. The undersigned is authorized to enter this Plea Agreement on behalf of the defendant as evidenced by the Resolution of the Board of Directors of the defendant attached to, and incorporated by reference in, this Plea Agreement.

24. The undersigned attorneys for the United States have been authorized by the Attorney General of the United States to enter this Plea Agreement on behalf of the United States.

25. A facsimile or PDF signature will be deemed an original signature for the purpose of executing this Plea Agreement. Multiple signature pages are authorized for the purpose of executing this Plea Agreement.

DATED: Sep. 25, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

BY: Koji Yamanokawa
Koji Yamanokawa
Senior Vice President, Board Director,
And Chief Compliance Officer
Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd.

BY: Craig P. Seebald
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**Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd.
BOARD RESOLUTION**

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd. ("HIAMS") held on September 25, 2013, the Board:

RESOLVED, that the execution, delivery and performance of the Plea Agreement between the United States Department of Justice and HIAMS, in the form attached hereto, is hereby approved;


RESOLVED, that Mr. Koji Yamanokawa, Senior Vice President, Board Director and Chief Compliance Officer of HIAMS, is authorized, empowered, and directed to execute and deliver the Plea Agreement in the name and on behalf of HIAMS; and

RESOLVED, that Mr. Koji Yamanokawa is authorized, empowered, and directed to represent HIAMS before any court or governmental agency in order to make statements and confirmations in accordance with the Plea Agreement, including entering a guilty plea on behalf of HIAMS.

CERTIFICATION

I, Hiroshi Sato, President and Chief Operating Officer of Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd. ("HIAMS"), a company organized and existing under the laws of Japan, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of HIAMS at a meeting of the Board of Directors held in Tokyo, Japan on September 25, 2013, and in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation, are true and correct and complete and that said resolutions have not been amended, modified or repealed, and remain in full force and effect, as of the date hereof.

Signed in Tokyo, Japan this 25th day of September, 2013 by:


Hiroshi Sato
President and Chief Operating Officer
Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd.